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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/078,166	02/19/2002	Bryan D. Cull	FBSI-25,639	3563

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EXAMINER

HYEON, HAE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/078,166

Applicant(s)

CULL, BRYAN D.

Examiner

Hae M Hyeon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 2-19-02 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because cross-sectional view of Figures 2, 4, 6 and 8-11 do not show different materials with their corresponding cross-sectional lines. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: **"aperture 115"** recited in the paragraph [0014], line 1. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: **"aperture 180"** recited in the paragraph [0016], line 8. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: **"100" in Figure 1**. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1, 10 and 19 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 12; claim 10, line 18; and claim 19, line 19; "termini" should be -- the termini --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Specification

6. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- In the paragraph [0010], line 4, "The recesses 70 and 68" should be -- The recesses 70 and 66 --.
- In the paragraph [0011], line 7, "a rearward portion 78" should be -- a rearward portion 74 --.
- The paragraph [0011], line 7 recites, "a rearward portion 78," but line 8 recites, --the rear portion 74 --. Also, the paragraph [0012], line 2 recites, "the rearward portion 74," but line 6 recites, "the rear portion 74." The terminology for the same element should be consistent through out the specification. Thus, the examiner suggests the applicant to use either "the **rearward** portion" or "the **rear** portion." Please, make the correction through out the entire specification.
- In the paragraph [0012], line 2, the examiner suggests the applicant to change "the central member 62" to -- the support member 62 --.
- The paragraph [0018], line 16 recites, "The tab 80 (shown in Fig. 8)," but Figure 8 does not show the tab 80.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections - 37 CFR § 1.75(a)

7. The following is a quotation of an appropriate paragraph of 37 CFR 1.75:

(a) The specification must conclude with a claim particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention or discovery.

8. Claims 11 and 19 are objected under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(a) because claims 11 and 19 recites, "said support member having a **conically shaped**, ..." First, the present specification does not describe the support member having a conically shaped. Second, the support member 62 is made of different parts, the tab 80, the retainer ring 78, the shank 76, the rear portion 74, the flats 98 and a part 100 (the reference number not explained in the present specification). Therefore, it is not clear whether the claims 11 and 19 are referring to the overall shape of the support member 62 itself of one of the parts of the support member 62.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 1-20 are objected.

10. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: In combination with all the limitations recited in the independent claims, none of the prior arts show a fiber optic connector comprising a support member having a shank, which is engaged with a retainer ring and which is disposed within a housing of for extending between a rear seal body and a forward portion of the housing with a gap disposed between the housing and the shank through which optical fibers extend. Furthermore, the fiber optic connector comprises a recess which is interiorly disposed in the forward portion of the housing having an interiorly disposed periphery which defines a recess profiles that has inner portions which receive termini of the optical fibers.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Patent No. 6,305,849 B1 by Roehrs et al., US Patent No. 5,980,317 by McNeel, and US Patent No. 4,496,213 by Borsuk.

12. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Objections to drawings, to specification and to claims 11 and 19.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hae M Hyeon whose telephone number is 703-308-4802. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (8:30-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn D Feild can be reached on 703-308-2710. The fax phone numbers for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9318 for regular communications and 703-872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Hae M Hyeon
Examiner
Art Unit 2839

hnh

May 20, 2003


LYNN FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800